THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

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CONVENTION ISSUE

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

THE VOICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

Cover

Scenes from the International Convention in Buffalo, New York, July 6-10 include (clockwise from upper left); the theme float; Thom Douglas, song leader, in action; drama by the Fisherpeople; the installation of officers; and program personality David Meece.

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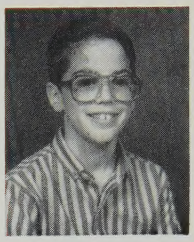

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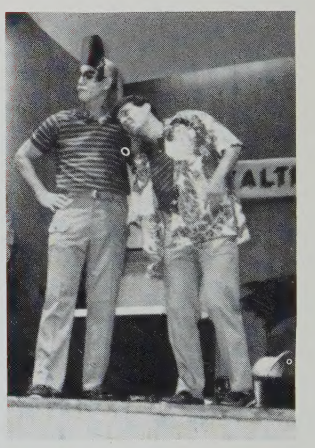

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CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WITNESS PROGRAM

1987 ALBERT H. DIEBOLD AWARDS

Winning youth and Christian Endeavor societies in the 1987 Christian Endeavor Witness Program sponsored by the International Society of Christian Endeavor have been announced by Rev. David G. Jackson, General Secretary.

The Albert H. Diebold Awards, in addition to a cash gift and grant to attend the 59th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Buffalo, New York, July 6-10, 1987, include U.S. Savings Bonds, Christian Endeavor pins, an attractive plaque to all winners, and honor certificates to all other qualified entrants. The awards were presented during the Convention.

Awards to individuals are given for the most significant article, editorial, talk, poster, photograph, cartoon, or activity developed, written, or released after February 28, 1986, and submitted by February 28, 1987. Entries are divided into two Divisions, Division A for those who have not reached their 13th birthday by February 28, 1987, and Division B for those 13 or older but who have not reached their 21st birthday by February 28. Judging is based on originality, excellence of literary art or form, implementation of the purpose of the program, and Christian witness to the community.

Societies sponsor and report a significant completed Christian witness project by the group. The project must have begun after February 28, 1986, and be reported by February 28, 1987. Each activitiy is evaluated on the basis of group participation, goals established and achieved, implementation of the purpose of the program, and the Christian witness of the activity to the community.

Through the generous financial support of the Diebold Foundation, this continuing program has been made possible for the past 36 years. The 1987 Program marks the 31st year that the awards have been named in honor of the late Albert H. Diebold, a Christian layman of New York City.

Judges for this year's entries included Rev. Robert Bell, pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Patty Todt, Trustee of the International Society and member of Brookwood Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio; and Glen Wheeler, Director of Ohio Church Development Fund of Church of Christ/Christian Churches, also of Columbus.

Individual

Division A

Joel Thomas

New Cumberland Christian Church

New Cumberland, West Virginia

For his weekly newspaper "Star News" Joel receives a $75 U.S. Savings Bond and a Christian Endeavor Pin

Division B

Patricia Shultz

Northport Christian Church Newport, Tennessee

For her "Cookies for Prisoners" project Patricia receives $125 in cash plus a grant of $100 for the expenses of attending the 59th International Christian Endeavor Convention July 8-10, 1987 in Buffalo, New York

Society

Northport Christian Endeavor Group

Northport Christian Church Newport, Tennessee

For its Six-Fold "The Other Side of the Mountain" Project this group receives $150 in cash plus a grant of $150 for the expenses of one or more youth representatives to attend the 59th International Christian Endeavor Convention July 6-10, 1987, in Buffalo, New York

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS — Division A

FIRST PLACE

Joel Thomas, 11-year-old member of the Junior Christian Endeavor at New Cumberland Christian Church, New Cumberland, West Virginia, has for two years been preparing a free weekly newsletter which he hands out at the church and also posts on the bulletin board.

He gathers his own information about what is going on in the church and prints his newsletter on his computer. He puts a lot of time in this and works hard on getting each week's paper ready, says Midge Staley, church secretary. This was his own venture and he is very enthusiastic about it.

For his winning entry Joel receives a $75 U.S. Savings Bond, a Christian Endeavor pin, and an award plaque.

SECOND PLACE

Participation in a holiday parade on his church's float was the entry which won second place for Chris Smith of Palmyra, Pennsylvania. Chris is Junior Christian Endeavor President at First Evangelical Congregational Church and is 10 years old.

On November 8, 1986, Chris played the part of an American Indian on the church float which the Endeavorers constructed. Over 2,000 "Bible Reading Record" leaflets were given out along the parade route.

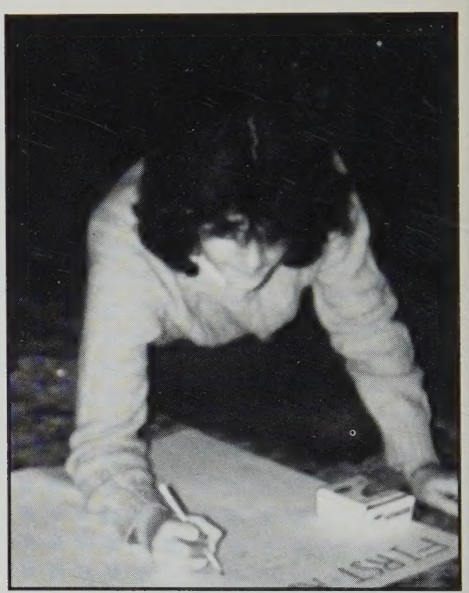
Chris receives a $50 U.S. Savings Bond, a Christian Endeavor pin, and an award plaque.

THIRD PLACE

A poster with "First Aid Hints" — physical, spiritual, and mental — designed by Mary Shultz, 12 years old, won for her third place. Mary is from Cosby, Tennessee, and attends Christian Endeavor at Northport Christian Church, Newport, Tennessee.

The bright red and white poster was displayed at her church and at offices of a doctor and a dentist.

For her entry Mary receives $15 in cash and a Christian Endeavor pin.



INDIVIDUAL WINNERS — Division B

FIRST PLACE

A unique Cookies for Prisoners project by Patricia Shultz, 17-year-old Endeavorer from Cosby, Tennessee, captured for her first place in Division B. Patricia is President of the Christian Endeavor Society at Northport Christian Church in Newport, Tennessee, and is a junior at Gatlinburg Pittman High School.

For her project she baked 19 dozen cookies (sugar, chocolate chip, and peanut butter), and placed individual portions along with chocolate mints in ziplock bags. She also hand lettered and cut out paper keys with the Scripture Jeremiah 29:11. On February 23 she delivered 48 packages to the prisoners at Cocke County Jail (all men except one).

She says, "Why did I do this? Because it showed that someone cared. I wanted them to know that Jesus cared for them, too."

For her award Patricia receives $125 in cash plus a grant up to $100 for expenses of attending the Buffalo Convention, and an award certificate.

SECOND PLACE

Raking leaves for anyone who wanted them done, free, was the project undertaken by Jeff Gordon, 15, of Palmyra, Pennsylvania. He organized members of the Senior High Christian Endeavor Society of First Evangelical Congregational Church to help him on November 15. Working from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

they raked leaves and bagged them at seven homes. They left "A Bible Reading Record" and other material at each home. Those assisted, mostly elderly, were very appreciative.

Jeff's award was $100 in cash plus a grant of $75 for convention expenses and an award certificate.

THIRD PLACE

Heather Wiebe, 15, of St. Boniface, Manitoba, Canada, took third place honors for her work at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

She logged 90 hours of volunteer service feeding child patients, changing diapers, distributing supplies, etc.

Heather, who attends Holy Cross Church, also is a writer of poems and short stories.

For her efforts Heather receives $75 in cash plus an award certificate.

RUNNER-UP WINNERS

A sermon delivered by Eileen Nano, 16 years old, at The Community Church of Little Neck, Little Neck, New York, on February 8 won for her recognition as a runner-up. In her sermon on "Living by the Light," Eileen emphasized the importance of consistency and enthusiasm if we are to be good witnesses for Christ.

A poster, "Don't Get Hooked," emphasizing the dangers of smoking, was the entry of Kevin Shultz, age 13, of Cosby, Tennessee. His poster was displayed at Northport Christian Church, Newport, Tennessee, and also at a local coin laundry.

For their entries Eileen and Kevin each receive award certificates.

SOCIETY WINNERS

NORTHPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

First place honors go to the Christian Endeavorers of Northport Christian Church, Newport, Tennessee, for their six-fold project, "The Other Side of the Mountain."

Seeking to share Jesus Christ with individuals, who for various reasons or circumstances live a different lifestyle, the group shared with: 1. Fire victims; 2. Servicemen; 3. Orphans; 4. Old Folks in a retirement home; 5. Shut-ins; 6. Mentally and physically handicapped.

The 11 persons involved in this project studied each group and tried to understand needs and then made and carried out plans for sharing.

Not only were the youth affected, but parents became aware of others' needs and that through Christian Endeavor even young people have a ministry. A number of persons were touched by the group's concern, including a family who lost their home through arson, a number of servicemen, orphans at Cookson Hill Children's Home in Oklahoma, senior citizens at Appalachian Christian Village retirement center in Johnson City, Tennessee; a group of shut-ins and prisoners; and those at Riverwood Christian Home in Louisville, Tennessee.

Lynn McKnight and Edna Badeaux are society sponsors.

For its prize-winning entry the group receives $150 in cash plus a grant of $150 for convention expenses and an award plaque.

IGLESIA NATIONAL PRESBITERIANA EBEN-EZER

The "Discipulos de Cristo" Society of the Eben-Ezer Presbyterian Church, Mexico City, Mexico, tied for second place with its evangelistic chorus involving 25 members.

Formed in 1985, the singing group had two main objectives: a) to praise God by means of song and b) to integrate new members

Discipulos de Cristo Chorus

in the society. The name of the chorus is "Talmidei Yeshua," which means the same in Hebrew as the name of the society, "Discipulos de Cristo" ("Pupils of Christ" in English).

After the first year the group added a new objective, to evangelize. The group's director is Daniel Orozco. The chorus has sung on a number of occasions.

Gabriela Pineda Penalta is president of the society.

For its entry this group receives $100 in cash plus a grant up to $50 for expenses of attending the Buffalo Convention, and an award plaque.

SOUTH LAKE WALES CHURCH OF GOD

The Youth Department of South Lake Wales Church of God, Lake Wales, Florida, tied for second place with its Christian witness entry.

The project had three aspects; first, a Hunger Busting program after school each Thursday when the youth deliver a box of food,share the Gospel, and pray with very needy families; second, a visitation to the elderly six Sundays out of the year; third, and the most exciting, 15 of the youth held a Stay-at-home Workcamp, a witness by doing a much needed project, which was weeding and clearing out a grown-up flower garden at a major intersection and cleaning and painting the homes of two elderly widows.

For its second place tie the group also receives $100 in cash plus a grant up to $50 to attend the convention and an award plaque.

Lavern Billig, Rev. Mark Shaner, youth pastor, and Tracey Minton, president, South Lake Wales Church of God youth August 2 award presentation.

HONEY BOOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Christian Endeavorers of Honey Brook Presbyterian Church, Honey Brook, Pennsylvania, travelled 400 miles to Dugspur, Virginia, and spent a week restoring a house of worship. For its project the group of 17 (12 teens, 5 adults) receives fourth place honors.

On Sunday, August 24, 1986, after 26 years of neglect, the restored church hosted 101 worshipers in a service of rededication. The Christian Endeavorers provided worship leadership and special music.

Lorri Mantz is president of the group and the pastor is Rev. E. Gary Marshall.

For its entry the group is awarded $50 in cash and an award plaque.

Honeybrook 4th place group beginning work

RUNNER-UP SOCIETY WINNERS

The Junior High-Senior High Youth Encounter of First Baptist Church of Georgetown, Washington, D.C., was named a runner-up for its Pre-Thanksgiving Celebration, "Thanks Be to God," at its regular meeting November 23. Featured were a poster contest and a "Basket of Love" contest. Angela Terrell is president and Mrs. Vivian M. Saunders is sponsor.

The Junior High and Senior Societies of Bruton Road Christian Church, Dallas, Texas, also won runner-up honors. Their project was the distribution of neighborhood Bible/church information packets in March 1986. Materials were assembled in plastic bags and placed on 500 doors in nearby new home developments. Anjannette Loftin was Junior High president and Shawn Dry headed the Senior group. Mary Moffitt is Senior sponsor.

The third runner-up winner is the Junior Society of First Christian Church, Harlingen, Texas. The project was assisting the "Seaman's Center" at Port Brownsville in December 1986 by providing gifts for the seamen at Christmas. This group also took part in a live nativity scene and helped set up a Christian Endeavor display for Christian Endeavor Week. President was Eric McCleery; Judith Logue is sponsor.

The three runner-up societies each receive $25 in cash plus an award plaque.

Kopp Heads International

At the meeting of the Corporation in Buffalo, New York, July 9, Bishop Clarence A. Kopp of Huntington, Indiana, was elected to a two-year term as president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, succeeding Dr. Jack R. Rothenberger who served 1983-87.

Bishop of the West District of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and a leader of church planting in his denomination, Bishop Kopp began his Christian Endeavor activities as a junior in his home church in Fort Wayne, Indiana. As a youth he attended conventions and participated in Christian Endeavor leadership. As a newly married young man, he and his wife Viriginia attended a Christian Endeavor convention. He has held pastorates in Ohio and Indiana and many offices in Ohio Christian Endeavor, including state president.

The Kopps have four children, daughters Deborah (Lefton) and Denise (Walters) and sons Dan and Dale. Dan is Campus Life Director for Columbus, Ohio, Youth for Christ and the founding pastor of First Love Church of the United Brethren in Christ in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. The Kopps have seven granddaughters and one grandson.

Bishop Kopp says that, "Some of the greatest influences on my life have been related to Christian Endeavor" and pledges, "I will do my best to help experiences that make a difference happen in the lives of those who will associate with Christian Endeavor in our generation."

Other officers elected for the 1987-89 biennium are: Keaka Beatty, associate president, and Samuel M. Guerrero-Toy, Tracy Matthews, and Ernest D. Overkamp, vice-presidents.

Keaka is from Mokuaikaua Congregational Church, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, and is in her first year of college.

Sam is from Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico, where he is active in the Presbyterian Church. He is a past president of the Mexican National Union and is very active in field work to revitalize Christian Endeavor in his country. He also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the World's Union.

Tracy is active in Capital View Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., and the Golden Rule Union. He travels extensively as a song leader and speaker. He is employed by the United States government as a logistics management specialist.

Ernie is serving his second term as vice-president. He makes his home in Holland, Michigan, where he is the owner of Holland Stitchcraft, Inc. Active in Harlem Reformed Church, he is a former president of the Michigan Union. He is also a World's Union Trustee.

Frances M. Becker of Rydal, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was elected to join the Life Trustees of International.

Executive Committee

Chosen to serve on the Executive Committee with the president, associate president, vice-presidents, immediate past president (Dr. Jack R. Rothenberger of Skippack, Pennsylvania) and Finance Committee Chairman (Oreon E. Fields, New Cumberland, West Virginia) were Vicki Barner, Mesquite, Texas; Larry W. Clark, Columbus, Ohio; Rev. Frank C. Darling, Sr., Orchard Park, New York; Barbara J. Dority, Roanoke, Virginia; Terry Gilmour, Stevensville, Ontario; Dr. Nathaniel Jarrett, Chicago, Illinois; Alfred L. Saunders, Washington, D.C., and Jonathan Stewart, Grove City, Pennsylvania.

Educational Committee

Members of the Educational Committee elected by the Board of Trustees during the Buffalo Convention include: Timothy J. Kribs, Harlingen, Texas, chairman; Mary I. Beatty, Wellsville, Ohio; Rev. Mark Heijerman, Holland, Michigan; Harold R. Holstein, Wilmington, California; Debbie Jacobson, Bothell, Washington; Judith S. Logue, Harlingen, Texas; Dr. Edgar L. Mack, Nashville, Tennessee; Rev. Keith R. Miller, Ronks, Pennsylvania; and Donald A. Vespremi, Abilene, Texas.

The newly-elected officers and committee members were installed during the closing session of the convention by Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, Honorary President for Life of the World's Union.

Finance Committee

The 1986-88 Finance Committee under the chairmanship of Oreon Fields Includes: Lavern Billig, Lake Wales, Florida; Margaret L. Clarkson, Hamilton, Ontario; Dr. B. McClain Cochran, West Chester, Pennsylvania; Richard Lidbom, Charlotte, North Carolina; Mary Moffitt, Dallas, Texas; and Mrs. Vivian Saunders, Washington, D.C.

Buffalo '87 — An Inside Look

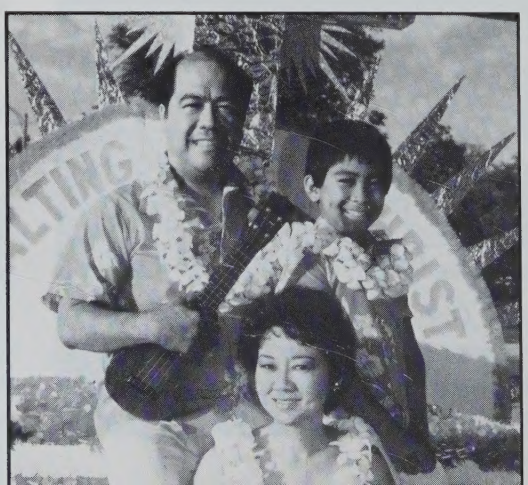
The anticipation and optimism of another great gathering of Christian Endeavorers came to a climax as the 59th International Christian Endeavor Convention convened in Buffalo, New York, on July 6, 1987. Presiding over a crowd estimated between 500 and 800, International Society President Jack R. Rothenberger of Pennsylvania opened the first evening session by leading the entire throng in a public quotation of the Christian Endeavor Pledge. From that point on, everything was uphill as youth and adult alike found themselves spiritually uplifted by the many speakers and leaders who participated throughout the week.

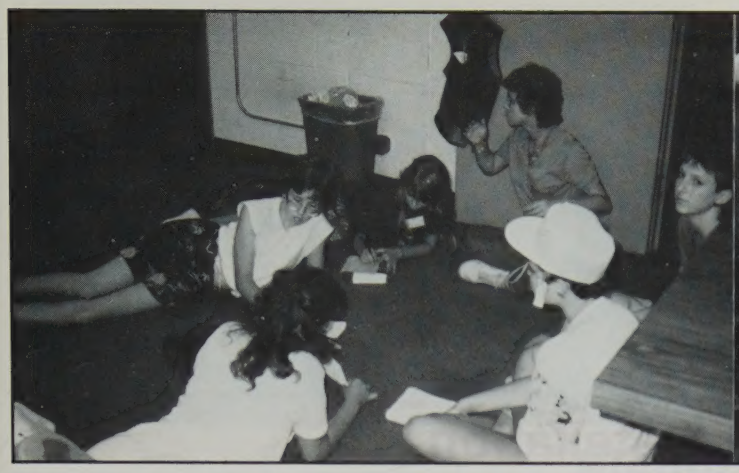
"Exalting Christ" — Convention Theme

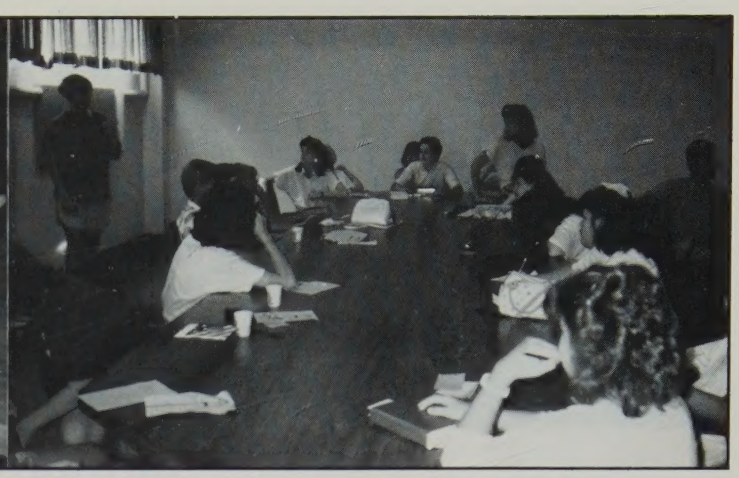
The convention theme, "Exalting Christ," could not have been more appropriate as convention-goers not only had the opportunity to experience the fellowship, teaching, and inspiration of the convention itself but had the additional opportunity to visit the majestic Niagara Falls, the quaint village "Niagara on the Lake," the historical Welland Canal, and other places unique to the beautiful Niagara region. Some, in fact, continued after the convention on a special tour to Nova Scotia.

Diverse Program

Touring, however, was by no means the primary reason why delegates from 25 states, Canada, Mexico, American Samoa, Germany, and Guatamala came to Buffalo. The International Program Committee, headed by Lavern Billig of Florida, provided convention delegates with one of the most interesting and diverse programs ever. Morning and evening sessions was presided over by various International leaders. Thom Douglas, talented soloist and song leader from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, set the tone for every major gathering with an assortment of gospel music, old and new. Before, during, and after most sessions were "special features" by both young people and adults whom God has blessed with unique talents. Though several names could be listed, the family singing of Hawaiians' Randy and Gay Hongo and their talented little boy needs special mention. They not only presented two mini-concerts on Tuesday and Thursday evening, but had a special part in many other gatherings. Evening mini-concerts were also presented by Nancy Darling of New York on Monday, the Mexican delegates on Wednesday, and Thom Douglas on Friday. In addition, every evening mass session featured a particular "youth witness" by selected young people from around the International Society.







Educational Conferences and Growth Groups

During the hours between breakfast and the morning mass sessions, educational opportunities abounded for every age. Junior activities were available Tuesday through Thursday, capped off with a Junior Convention on Friday. Individual Quiet Hour sessions for various age levels were held every morning by inspirational, thought-provoking leaders. Following those devotional periods were Christian Endeavor Labs geared specifically toward assisting every delegate in the organization and operation of an effective youth ministry. The labs, then, were followed by a wide variety of Growth Groups on contemporary Christian subjects. Mealtimes throughout the week often became a "rap" session for the many insights and information gained during the morning hours.

Evening Sessions

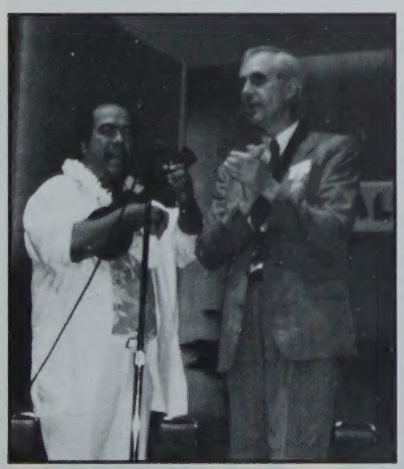
Highlighting every evening session was a featured performance by an individual or group or a unique message by one of Christian Endeavor's multitude of inspiring leaders. The first evening of the convention featured a concert by the popular Christian singer David Meece. His contemporary Christian music and personal witness were heartily received by both young and old. Meece left quite an impression as young people continued to talk about his message in song and word, and sponsors and alumni shared their positive feelings about his challenging testimony.

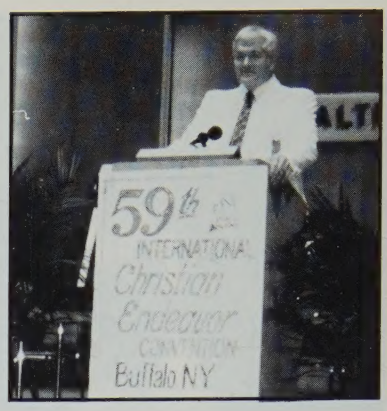
Great Music

Great music was the hallmark for the Tuesday evening session also as the nationally-known Continental Brass and Singers staged an hour-long program of powerful Christian music. Both David Meece and the Continental Singers were again featured at informal "Late Night Specials" held after their evening concerts.

World's Union President

As the convention came to the middle of the week, delegates were given the privilege of hearing and meeting World's Christian Endeavor President Konrad Brandt. "Conny," as he has become known to many Christian Endeavor leaders around the world, is from Marburg, West Germany, and has for many years been an aggressive leader for Christ and the Church in the dynamic, growing German Christian Endeavor Union. Brandt, who succeeded James Murdoch of Scotland as World's President at the 1986 World's Convention in Seoul, Korea, brought a challenging, non-traditional message interspersed with personal remarks from several international representatives.





Election and Installation

Thursday brought additional responsibilities to several delegates as the International Society Board of Trustees and Corporation members met during the afternoon. Besides electing trustees, members of the Executive Committee, and hearing numerous reports, the Corporation had the opportunity to elect its new officers for the 1987-89 biennium. Succeeding Jack R. Rothenberger as President was Bishop Clarence Kopp of Indiana. Elected with President Kopp as Vice-Presidents were Sam Guerrero of Mexico, Tracy Matthews of Washington, D.C., and Ernie Overcamp of Michigan. Elected to serve as Associate (youth) President was Miss Keaka Beatty of Hawaii. Convention-goers were able to witness the installation of all the new officers on Friday evening when Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, former World and International president, "officially" installed Clarence A. Kopp as International President, along with all the other elected Endeavorers mentioned above.

Witness Program Winners Honored

Thursday evening not only allowed everyone to have the opportunity to meet and hear the new President, but that particular session in Kleinhans Music Hall became a "showcase" for the recipients of the Albert H. Diebold Awards. Winning individuals and youth groups from all over the United States and Mexico were presented with attractive plaques and cash awards by President Jack R. Rothenberger for their part in Christian Endeavor's Witness Program (see associated article in this issue).

Fisherpeople

The closing session of the convention left people wanting more. A contemporary drama group known simply as the Fisherpeople had convention delegates laughing at one moment and soul-searching the next. Their unique adaptations of several Biblical stories and concepts caused people to take a much closer look at their own personal relationship with God.

Closing Communion Service

Closing out the formal part of the convention was a mass communion service led by outgoing president Jack Rothenberger. This gathering on the shores of the Niagara River closed as it had begun — with the public reading of the Christian Endeavor Pledge. And even though several gathered again for a "Late Night Special" after that evening session, people seemed to leave that gathering with a better idea as to what is means to be truly "Exalting Christ."

On to Texas

Though the 1989 Convention in Harlingen, Texas, will initiate a different theme, the next two years before we meet again will determine whether we have truly implemented our present one. If wedo, the difference will be seen and felt before we ever begin our trek to Texas.

— Don Vespremi
Abilene, Texas

January 25-February 1, 1987 — A Significant Week

THEME: Trusting Christ...I Promise

February 2, 1987, marked the 106th anniversary of the founding of the first Christian Endeavor society by Dr. Francis E. Clark in the Williston Congregational Church, Portland, Maine. Each year Christian Endeavor Week is celebrated to mark this important "birthday" for all church young people, since Christian Endeavor is the forerunner of the entire range of youth work in the church today. It first turned the face of the church to youth and youth to leadership in the church and it was the pioneer organization in regard to interdenominational and interracial cooperation.

The purpose of the week is to dramatize the vital place of youth in the local church and to provide opportunities for youth to demonstrate their loyalty and leadership. Some churches plan a special event for each day of the week, while others select one or two activities. Many churches on Christian Endeavor Sunday (February 1 this year) encourage the Endeavorers to conduct the entire Sunday morning worship. Other popular events are a social or a combined meeting with other groups. Here are some selected activities showing the variety of ways that Christian Endeavor Week was emphasized this year.

Tom Jameson, Associate President of International Society, spent two weeks in Texas beginning January 24, attending meetings and doing field work. He was accompanied during the first week by his fiance, Cindy Simmons. Highlights of his visit included the Bruton Road Youth Revival in Dallas, meeting with societies of Southwest Park Christian Church in Abilene, Bible study with youth of Smith Chapel A.M.E. in Dallas, a tour of the state office, serving as toastmaster at the Dallas District Banquet at Urbandale Christian Church, a visit to Harlingen, meetings in Houston, the San Jacinto banquet at Westside Christian Church in Bellaire (Tom was toastmaster and chorus leader), and morning worship at First Christian in Alvin.

In Mexico City the "Discipulos de Cristo" group of Eben-Ezer Presbyterian Church celebrated the week of February 8-15 with meetings each day at 7:00 p.m.; themes were: Monday, fasting; Tuesday, prayer worship; Wednesday, picture projection; Thursday, discussion about the picture; Friday, soiree (prayer and praise). On the actual birthday, February 2, they ate chocolate cookies, remembering the burnt cookies at the Clark manse on the first February 2. Gabriela Pineda Peralta, president of the group, reported that about 20 attended.

The Calvary Christians at Calvary Memorial Church in Roanoke, Virginia, held a party February 15 with 24 present. May Hall is sponsor.

At Barton Road United Brethren in Christ Church, Meadville, Pennsylvania, the youth sang in the choir on both Sundays, led the prayer meeting Wednesday, and on Saturday afternoon had a service at a rest home and visited shut-ins, with a sled ride party and a fellowship party in the evening. They capped off the week by taking charge of the evening service February 1. Rev. Arthur Flick is pastor and Mrs. Flick is youth sponsor.

The Roanoke (Virginia) Union held its annual banquet at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Scott Sibert, president of the union, presided. The main speaker was Rev. Victor Wolfe from Valley Reformed Presbyterian Church. Puppets, singing, and skits added to the evening's fun.

Junior Endeavorers of Rexmont Evangelical Congregational Church, Rexmont, Pennsylvania, participated in the morning worship on February 1. They presented the Christian Endeavor Pledge, using Bible verses, and helped in the other parts of the service. Mrs. Harry Sechrist, Jr., is sponsor and Rev. W. J. Altpeter is pastor.

Mercer County (Pennsylvania) had a week-long display contest on the theme "Christ the Center." First place winner was the Senior High Christian Endeavor of Jackson Center Presbyterian Church, with second place going to the Senior Highs of Unity Presbyterian Church and third place to the Senior Highs of Adamsville Presbyterian Church. In the Junior Division Fredonia Presbyterian Juniors took first place, with Unity Juniors second and Adamsville Juniors third.

Mercer County held a two-day celebration—January 31 and February 1. On Saturday there was a party at Maysville Community Church at 1:30 with youth attending three sessions, one on contempory Christian music, one on the Exodus Trust Building program of the Bair Foundation, and the third a Christian movie. After a spaghetti supper there was a rally with Thom Douglas singing and host pastor Rev. David Latshaw speaking. The day ended with birthday cake and ice cream. There was a Birthday Cake Bake Contest with Jackson Center Presbyterian Church winning, followed by Zions United Church and Adamsville Presbyterian. The ice cream was special with each piece having "CE" on it.

On Sunday morning almost every Christian Endeavor church in Mercer County had youth leading and speaking in worship; the county distributed free over 2,500 special church bulletins. On Sunday evening young people from nine county churches presented the musical "FOREVER," also at Maysville, to a capacity crowd. Jane Bartholomew is director of the musical, with Jon Stewart assisting. This has since been given for other churches.

A Valley Rally was held January 31 in New Cumberland (West Virginia) with Endeavorers from the Ohio Valley participating. The local church youth presented the musical "Surrender" and the singing group "Justified" sang in the coffeehouse portion of the activities. Donna Straight was M.C. for the evening and the adult society served cake and ice cream.

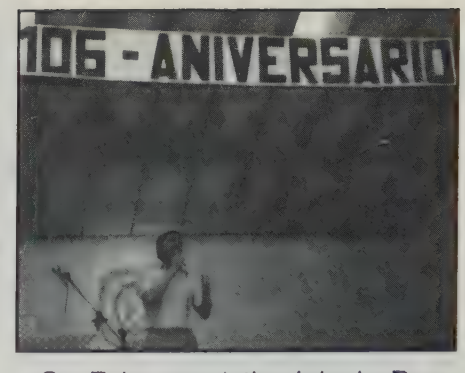
Fearing bad weather in January, the Adult Endeavorers of Central Fellowship Church, Connellsville, Pennsylvania, hosted the Fayette County Banquet on December 9. On February 1 the Youth Society assisted with the morning worship and the Junior Society at its meeting told the story of the founding of Christian Endeavor and served cookies. A table of Christian Endeavor artifacts was on display in the church narthex. Wanetta Yoder is Junior Superintendent.

February 8 was the date for Westminster Presbyterian Church in America, Roanoke, Virginia, to mark Christian Endeavor Sunday. Lori Weeks and Chris Hylton spoke. The Juniors gave a presentation on the Pledge.

Hanover Branch of York County (Pennsylvania) held a Birthday Party at St. Jacob's (Stone) Union Church in Brodbecks on February 7. The "Four Seasons Party" featured centerpieces and cakes depicting the four seasons. Homemade ice cream was a special treat provided by Branch President Preston Gantz and his wife Estella.

Oregon Endeavorers gathered at Camp Tadmor February 6-7 with the theme, "Bind Us Together." Each church was responsible for a gift to the Christian Endeavor office which was opened by a state officer at the birthday party.

On Sunday, February 1, the High School Endeavorers of Jerusalem Chapel United Brethren in Christ Church, Churchville, Virginia, took part in both morning worship services. The president, Amanda Simmons, told of the activities of the group and Tracy Matthews of Washington, D.C., sang. Mrs. Emily D. Griffin is sponsor.



On February 1 the Iglesia Presbiteriana Peniel Church of Guatemala City, Guatemala, invited all the societies of the Central District to a 106th Aniversario service. Presiding were Oscar Ramirez, president of the Central District; Jorge Figueroa, new president of the National Union, brought greetings. Rev. David Valasquez, past president of the district, spoke on the importance of Christian Endeavor in the lives of young people. Dorothy Haeussler of Woodstock, New York, U.S.A., honored guest, told of the World's Convention in Seoul, Korea, where she represented Guatemala. A service of prayers and song followed. Elizabeth Paz, vice-president of the Central District, reports about 350 people attended and "Christian Endeavor had a very happy birthday in Guatemala City."

Endeavorers at Clarksburg (West Virginia) First Church of the United Brethren in Christ started the week off with a youth talent show. On Sunday the youth led the devotional portion of the worship service with Gayle Ruble, Jr., as leader.

Endeavorers from Windsor Baptist Church of Chester County visited Grace Chapel Reformed Episcopal Endeavorers in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on February 1. After a tour of historical sites the youth returned to the church for dinner and a program by both societies. Charles Popjoy, president of Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor, spoke. Special music was provided

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CENTURY CLUB

The *Century Club,* started in 1980, consists of persons who contribute $100 or more annually to the ministry of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. (These are gifts received and recorded through our regular channels of giving such as membership, direct gift, and memorial contributions.)

During 1986 and 1987 *Century Club* contributions of $100 or more were received from the following:

—A—
Margaret H. Aldrich
Karen Allison
Tommy Ashley
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Assink
Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Aumann

—B—
Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Bachmann
Frank Baker, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bakker
Mrs. Amy R. Bane
Marjorie A. Banuat
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Barkley, Jr.
Rev. and Mrs. Charles W. Barner
Jack E. Barr
Genevieve M. Bartholomew
Mr. and Mrs. P. Raymond Bartholomew
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bates
Rev. and Mrs. Clair E. Beatty
Helen G. Beatty
Frances M. Becker
Mr. and Mrs. Austin C. Beighley
Oliver Benner
Ruth E. Benner
Sheldon D. Benner
John L. Bergen
Mr. and Mrs. Lavern Billig
William A. Blair
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Boeddeker
Timothy M. Boeddeker
Mr. and Mrs. William R. Bonnema
Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Boone
Jane L. Boss
Dr. and Mrs. LaVerne H. Boss
Robert J. Boss
Mr. and Mrs. William Boss
Mrs. Frances K. Bright
Margaret I. Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Morris F. Brown
Mrs. Mildred G. Bryan

—C—
Mrs. Pauline S. Case
June Chalmers
Mr. and Mrs. Jonas R. Chandler
Larry W. Clark
Samuel David Clark
Margaret L. Clarkson
John W. Clemens
Dr. B. McClain Cochran
Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Cole
Ruth E. Coleman
Lillian E. Cooper
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Cover
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Crammer
James M. Culverwell

—D—
Mr. and Mrs. Gary DeVore
E. Mozelle Dick
Mrs. Margaret C. Dillon
Marion C. Da Silva
Mrs. Loma Doan
Mrs. Rhuedine G. Davis
Barbara J. Dority
Charles S. Drain, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Dunn
Mrs. Bertha Dysle

—E—
Alvin E. Easter
Della M. Erickson
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Elenbaas
Mr. and Mrs. David R. Eubanks

—F—
Mrs. Audrie B. Fellers
Mrs. Lorraine H. Fentress
Mr. and Mrs. David C. Field
Mr. and Mrs. Allen S. Fields, Jr.
Rev. Allen S. Fields, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Oreon E. Fields
Florence E. Finley
Mr. and Mrs. Louis F. Fleming
Mrs. Catharine B. Foster
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson J. Fox
Janice E. Frock
Mr. and Mrs. Ira E. Fromm
Mrs. R. H. Fuqua

—G—
Bess Gamm
Dr. Wilmer Gardner
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Gaupp
Terry Gilmour
Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Goetz
Mr. and Mrs. David Gould
Mrs. Mildred Griffin
Nellie V. Griffin
Mrs. Margaret B. Grimshaw
Alice C. Goodman

—H—
Mrs. Mildred M. Hahn
Mrs. Dorothy W. Haeussler
Mr. and Mrs. John Halliday
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Harder
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Halter
James E. Harrelson, Jr.
Ruth E. Harvey
Mrs. Deane K. Herr
Mr. and Mrs. William Himmelberger
Evelyn M. Hinkamp
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hinton, Jr.
Rev. and Mrs. Chester D. Hirschy
Mrs. Susie C. Hodges
Carol J. House
Rev. and Mrs. Charles E. F. Howe
Marion Hull
F. Virginia Humphreys
Mrs. Carrie R. Hurt

—I—
Mr. and Mrs. Alden E. Imus

—J—
Rev. David G. Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. John Jansma
Mr. and Mrs. Adolph M. Jensen
Mrs. Doris J. Jones

—K—
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Kallop
Mrs. Georgia S. Kay
Mr. and Mrs. Calvin A. Keeney
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas C. Kern
Lucille E. King
Norman Klauder
Dorothy V. Kleist
G. Winthrop Knapp
Janet M. Koch
Mrs. Edith Kotlar
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy J. Kribs
Mr. and Mrs. H. Glenn Kriebel
Roland Kriebel

—L—
Howard S. Lane
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Leighton
Andrew L. Lewis, Jr.
Mrs. Judith C. Logue
Mr. and Mrs. Warren G. Lund

—M—
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Mateer
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Maas
Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Mahaffey
Mrs. Esther B. Marsh
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Mason
Catherine McAlicher
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph M. McConnell
Wilhelmina J. McPheron
Mrs. Joann Meador
Dr. and Mrs. Clyde W. Meadows
Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Meek
Charles R. Miller
Fern I. Miller
Clenzo Miles
Dorothy M. Mock
Mary B. Moffitt
Mrs. Helen E. Mordoff
William M. Morrison
Mrs. Marcelle Morgan
Dorothy Quinn Mosier
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Mowry
Mrs. Ardath Mullendore

—N—
Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nomura
Mr. and Mrs. Ken E. Nordling

—O—
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest D. Overkamp
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Overkamp
Pauline B. Owen

—P—
Mrs. Pauline F. Payne
Mr. and Mrs. Lee D. Peiffer
Mrs. Rose Peters
Viola M. Peterson
Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Polderman
Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Popjoy, III
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Preston
Victor Prowell
Evelyn R. Purdy

—Q—
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Quandt

—R—
Mrs. Edith Reasoner
Mr. and Mrs. Myron Reichardt
Patricia Reynolds
Mary Alta Richardson
F. Lillian Rodenhi
Ronald Romonosky
Dr. and Mrs. Jack R. Rothenberger
Mr. and Mrs. B. Z. Routh

—S—
E. Loraine Schlimm
Roxanna Schlimm
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred L. Saunders
Vinette A. Saunders
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Scaief
Mrs. Elsie K. Schlott
Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Shelley
Richard S. Schweiker
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Scruggs
Dr. Thomas A. Sebben
Mrs. Avis Seaton Sebby
Mrs. Clarissa D. Sessler
Karen Sue Shergy
Clyde Sherk
Mrs. Elizabeth Smith
William H. Smith, Jr.
Hazel M. Smedley
Jane Ann Snow
Mr. and Mrs. Roger S. Sonneveldt
Russell C. Spuhler
Clarence S. Staats, Jr.
Hazel Steager
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Strasburg
Mrs. Ida Mae Swann
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford G. Swartz
John F. Sytsma

—T—
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Taylor
Becky Teer
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. Thompson
Wilma J. Thompson
Mrs. Martha L. Thurman
Mr. and Mrs. Earl A. Todt
Mrs. John C. Tope
Pearle A. Tschudy

—U—
Mr. and Mrs. G. Robert Umberger

—V—
Rev. and Mrs. Roger D. Vander Kolk
Mr. and Mrs. Craig A. Vander Molen
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Van Wingerden
Robert J. Veenstra
Mrs. Narcissa Veerkamp
Lona Veldheer
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Vespremi
Bruce J. Vleik
Evelyn Vossekuil

—W—
Agnes Wallace
Sarah Wallace
Nellie Walters
Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Wanner
Mrs. Carolyn Warner
Mr. and Mrs. James White

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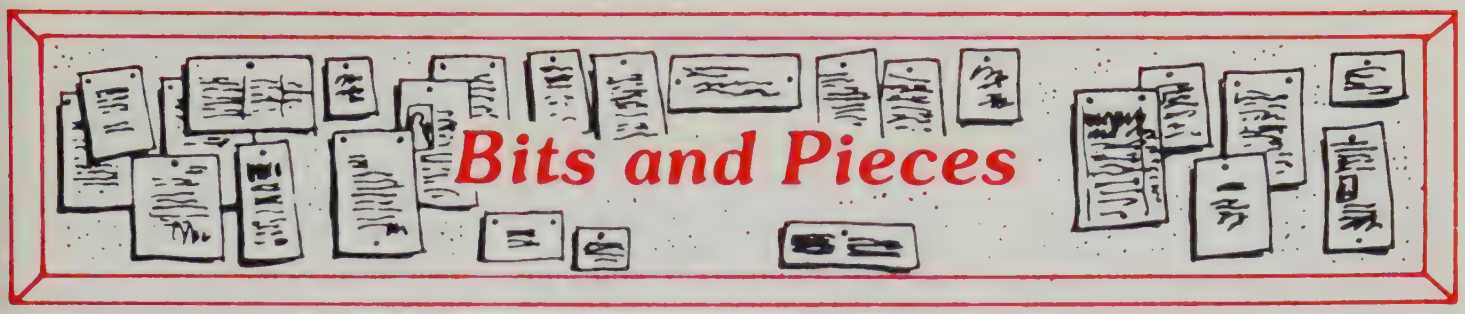


Illinois Alumni

Illinois Christian Endeavor alumni held their annual luncheon in Peoria on August 29 at the Heritage House with Dr. Gene Stone of Detroit, Michigan, former general secretary of the International Society, as speaker. William and Ruth Bonnema were elected co-chairpersons for a two-year term. After lunch the group went to Ed and Barbara Fierce's home for further fellowship, more food, and vespers. Next year's luncheon will be August 27, 1988, in Crete, Illinois (near Chicago).

California Events

In connection with the BRASS (San Bernadino, Riverside Association of Sunday School) annual convention March 5-7, California Christian Endeavor took advantage of the presence of Rev. David G. Jackson, general secretary of the International Society, and promoted a Youth and Youth Leaders Rally Sunday, March 8, in Moreno Valley and two Christian Endeavor Training Workshops Monday and Tuesday nights, March 9-10, at Colton. Mr. Jackson was the leader at each event.

Massachusetts Fellowship

The annual meeting of the Christian Endeavor Fellowship of the Massachusetts Union was held Thursday, June 11, at "Grotonwood," Groton. Activities included a business session, a roast beef dinner, and worship in the Chapel with a hymn sing and a message, "For Christ and the Church," by Rev. Harold Aldrin, the group's pastoral advisor. "Nat" Trull was group president. About 40 attended.

Wisconsin Alumni

Wisconsin Alumni Endeavorers held their seventh annual reunion September 12 in Milwaukee. The program included worship services, song fest, visiting, family style dinner with Rev. Richard Pritchard, M.C., "This Is Your Country" by Daniel Acker, business meeting, and closing communion service led by Rev. Paul Gibson, host pastor. Theme for the day was "Exalting Christ." The 1988 Reunion will be September 17 at First Reformed Church in Waupun.

Dynamo Club Reunion

A very successful statewide reunion of the Missouri Dynamo Club was held May 19 at Grant's Cabin Restaurant in St. Louis. Mrs. Mildred L. Parks and her committee were gratified to have well over 200 participating. Speaker was Rev. L. Vern Trueblood. Bess A. Gamm is president of the Missouri Union.

Philadelphia Longtimers

The 37th annual banquet for Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) Longtimers was held September 24 at Williamson's Restaurant. Speaker was Rev. Elwood Kirschner, former general secretary of the New Jersey Union.

Easter Sunrise Service

In 1938 Roanoke (Virginia) Christian Endeavorers began a tradition of Easter Sunrise Services, under the leadership of Virginia Scott Campbell, who was then president. The fiftieth service was held this year. For more than thirty years the services have been conducted at Cedar Lawn Memorial Park. Congratulations to Roanoke Endeavorers for fifty years of service!

Southern Region

Dates for this year's Southern Region Christian Endeavor Conference at Montreat, North Carolina, are October 30-November 1. The Virginia Union is in charge of the program.

Service in Cameroon

Endeavorer Lona Veldheer of Harlem Reformed Church, Harlem, Michigan, has been serving with Wycliff Bible Translators in Yaounde, Cameroon, West Africa. Her duties include computerizing the library and typing portions of the New Testament in the Mandera language.

Earl Todt Joins Staff

On August 1, Earl A. Todt of Columbus, Ohio, joined the International Staff as Administrative Secretary. He is serving on a half-time basis. His duties include office administration, fund-raising, and finances.

Retired from the Farm Bureau (now Country Mark), Earl is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a B.S. degree in animal science. He is an elder at Brookwood Presbyterian Church and is active in the Columbus Area Adult Christian Endeavor Fellowship.

With his wife Patty (Ramsey) he served as associate tour director for the 1986 Orient Tour and the 1987 Nova Scotia Tour. Together they are directing plans for the 1988 tour to the Soviet Union.

The Todts have four children—three sons and one daughter, and several grandchildren.

WORLDWIDE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

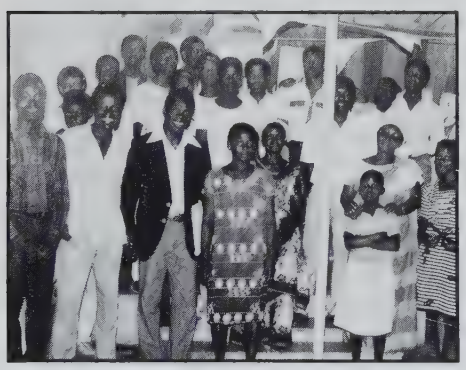
Lebanon and Syria

Word has been received from the Christian Endeavor Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in Syria and Lebanon that their work is being blessed despite the situation in Lebanon. The union now has two full-time workers, one for juniors and one for youth. An urgent need is a van to provide transportation for the workers as well as for children and youth of the various churches and help in organizing outdoor projects and suburban activities.

Ghana, West Africa

The president of the newly-organized Ghana Union, Rev. Jacob Lamptey, reports all the societies are operating and the members are doing a good job. In a large church which has a Christian Endeavor society, it is hoped the Christian Endeavor program will take charge of their soul-winning work, because of the good work the program is already doing in that church.

Mr. Lamptey also reports the executive board has been meeting regularly. A Gospel singing group, called THE ENDEAVORERS, has been organized and plans have been made to begin a prayer ministry. Already the society of Mr. Lamptey's church is engaged in an outreach work for the whole of the city of Accra and has seen a number of souls saved as a result.



Ghana Endeavorers at a local Society meeting

Marshall Islands

Although Christian Endeavor in the Marshall Islands is 76 years old, the Endeavorers were isolated from the rest of the Endeavorers around the world until about 16 years ago. Being under four different foreign governments, it was difficult to contact World Headquarters. The work was started by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (now the United Church for World Ministries) but the entire control of the work is now in the hands of the island people.

There are 27 main societies with 88 sub groups throughout the Marshall Islands. The groups meet together for a conference every two years with 500-600 attending. Membership is about 27,000, ranging in age from 12 to 77 years old, with 75% under the age of 30.

Rev. Jude Samson is president for the 1986-89 term; Rev. Jori Lokboj is secretary, Rev. Pijja Motauto treasurer, Lanij Kales youth representative, and Mrs. Dinah Samson is Women's Fellowship representative. The headquarters is in Majuro.

Nigerian Activities

A. A. Akpan, Executive Secretary of the Nigeria Christian Endeavor Union, reports their Intermediates, ages 5-12, meet monthly on the 10th day of the month; Junior Young People, ages 13-18, meet on the 15th day, and Young People, ages 19-30 on the 20th. Senior Young People ages 31-49 meet on every 25th of the month and adults age 50 and over meet every two months on the 30th.

Meetings are held weekly at the local churches.

Work in Cameroon

Dorathy Johnson, Secretary of the Cameroon Christian Endeavor Union, states that the work is divided by ages into beginners, ages 3-8; Intermediates, 9-15; Young People, 16-25; Seniors, 26-49; and Adults, 50 and above. Each group meets weekly from 6 to 9 p.m.; meetings include singing, Bible reading, and a message. The pastors are very helpful. Children and youth love to attend.

Guyana National Union

The work continues to progress in all organized areas of the Guyana National Union of Christian Endeavor, according to William Galloway, President.

Mr. Galloway has been busy giving reports of the World's Convention in Seoul, Korea, speaking to all individual congregations.

The service project of help to Chase's Home for Senior Citizens and other such homes continues, with gifts given on birthdays and a Christmas lunch served.

Endeavor Day 1987 was celebrated Sunday, February 1, with a 6:00 a.m. prayer meeting and a 3:00 p.m. united service with a message on the theme, "Forgetting Those Things Which are Behind."

The annual convention was a one-day affair on Easter Monday, April 20, at St. Marks Presbyterian Church. There were three sessions, the morning session which was a worship service, the concert featuring young people, and a fund-raising rally for the third part.

In June a Love Feast was held, in July a social evening and a united concert, exchange visits by societies in September, a week of activities in October, and visits by officers are planned for November.

Guyana Officers

Living Memorials

Living memorials offer an opportunity to express love and appreciation for lives of departed friends or loved ones. It also is a means of showing tribute to them while making an investment in the lives of young people today.

Through the gift of memorials to Christian Endeavor, you continue support for a movement that has meant much to an individual during his lifetime. In lieu of sending flowers why not take the opportunity to make a living memorial to Christian Endeavor as a tribute to one who has finished his course and entered into the rest of the Lord.

To give a living memorial send contributions with the name of the person to be remembered to the International Society of Christian Endeavor. An acknowlegement card will be sent to the family of the deceased and also to the contributor.

During 1986 the International Society received memorial gifts honoring the following individuals:

George A. Austin
May Carter
J. Elwood Christman
L. Enesey
Robert L. Fehl
Tammy Huber
Richard Hildreth
Ruth Jones
Mrs. Reis Kirkpatrick
Louis Klein, Jr.
Gilbert Maple
Francis W. Miller
Mabel J. Rike
Kuilei Soriano
Myrtle Sytsma
Beatrice Tobias
Walter Tobias
John C. Tope
Cliff Watson
John A. Wick

EXALTING CHRIST
In My Life—In My Family—In My Church—In My World

By Jack R. Rothenberger

Christian Endeavor exists for the purpose of exalting the Lord Jesus Christ in every possible way. The theme of the 59th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Buffalo, New York, expressed this purpose very well. Christian people of every age in every era of history seek to lift up Jesus Christ as the only Savior and Lord of life.

For the last four years I have been privileged to be the spokesperson for International Christian Endeavor. During these years my wife, Jean, and I have traveled extensively in order to meet with, listen to, challenge, and praise the work of Christian Endeavor within the lives of thousands of people who have committed themselves to Christ and His Church. We thank God for the fact that He has been at work and is working still in the hearts and minds of people in order to exalt the Living Christ in personal living, in family life, in worship, and in Christian fellowship throughout the world. Although customs vary and emphases may differ from one place to another, we found Christian commitment the same everywhere. Christian Endeavor people everywhere seek to exalt Christ and make Him known.

In my opinion, the Christian Endeavor movement in the world today is alive, active, and growing. It is not possible for me to adequately express my gratitude to hundreds of people who helped to make my travels meaningful, comfortable, and pleasant. Every experience Jean and I had with Christian Endeavor people was centered on the purpose of Christian Endeavor—i.e., "Exalting Christ."

As I leave the office of president my prayer is that the Living Christ will continue to move in your hearts and minds so that the principles of Christian Endeavor will become part of the very breathing of every Christian Endeavor group. May Confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord remain the core around which all else is planned and done. May Loyalty to Christ's Church and Service to Christ through His Church be the binding desire of every society. May Fellowship with Christ's people everywhere be the goal toward which we move through each and every activity of Christian Endeavor in the future.

The most important way these things will happen is if you and I and everyone who is involved in the Christian Endeavor movement keep the meaning of the Christian Endeavor Pledge as the basic characteristic of our movement. Above all else, keep trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ...seeking to do whatever He would have you do. If you do this, surely the Living Christ will be exalted.

CENTURY CLUB

(Continued from Page 14)

Mrs. Edith C. Whittaker
Myrtle M. Wieand
Olive Weaver
Rev. and Mrs. Harlow E. Willard
Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Wilson
Verla B. Wilson
Dr. Ralph Winter
Mrs. Edith B. Wolfenden
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph B. Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Wrigley

—Y—

C. David Young

—Z—

Florence Zimmerman
Mr. and Mrs. Milford Zimmerman

Tribute To Merritt L. Smith

"Well done, good and faithful servant," are words that echo from heaven and earth for Merritt L. Smith.

He has served the Lord well. As secretary of the Extension and Perpetuation Fund he has for over 40 years done things decently and in order.

Merritt's faithful years of Christian service give assurance and stability to the Extension and Perpetuation Fund and, as Merritt dreamed, the Fund will provide resources for program and Christian leadership for winning youth in dedicated service for Christ and the Church.

— **Eugene G. Alhart**
Past President, Extension and Perpetuation Fund Trustees

Merritt died June 7 at his home in Washington, D.C., at the age of 83. He had Parkinson's disease.

In addition to his Christian Endeavor work, he was active in Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, the Central Union Mission, and Allied Youth International.

He worked for the American Automobile Association in the District of Columbia for 40 years before his retirement in 1968 as assistant secretary of the organization.

He has served as Secretary of the Extension and Perpetuation Fund since 1946 and has also been a member of the Executive and Finance Committees of the International Society.

He was president of the District of Columbia Union 1926-28 and chairman of the local committee for the 12th World's Convention held in Washington in 1954.

Merritt's first wife, Thelma, died in 1947 and his second wife, Helen D., died in 1967. Survivors include his wife Mae LeCount, two daughters, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

SOCIETY ROLL CALL

Societies and unions which have become members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor through financial support of $25 or more during January through October 15, 1987, are listed here. Each of these groups has received an enrollment certificate. Those groups which have contributed $100 or more have received a gold seal certificate.

Groups are arranged alphabetically by state and province. Others who enroll will be listed in future issues.

GOLD SEAL

Adult Christian Endeavor, Pinson Presbyterian Church, Pinson, Alabama
Canadian Christian Endeavor Union
Adult Christian Endeavor, First Baptist Church of Georgetown, Washington, D.C.
Golden Rule Christian Endeavor Union, Washington, D.C.
Mokuaikaua Youth, Mokuaikaua Congregational Church, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii
Martin Temple A.M.E. Zion Church, Chicago, Illinois
Maryland Christian Endeavor Union
First Reformed Church of Grandville, Grandville, Michigan
Harlem Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan
First Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Michigan Christian Endeavor Union
Missouri Christian Endeavor Union
First Presbyterian Church, Far Rockaway, New York
Collegiate Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, New York, New York
New York Christian Endeavor Union
North Carolina Christian Endeavor Union
Christian Endeavor, Avlon United Brethren in Christ Church, Bremen, Ohio
Poling Alumni Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio
First United Brethren in Christ Church, Columbus, Ohio
Ohio Christian Endeavor Union
Adult Christian Endeavor, New Dundee United Brethren in Christ Church, New Dundee, Ontario, Canada
Gladstone Christian Church, Gladstone, Oregon
Oregon Christian Endeavor Union
Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor Union
Maysville Community Church, Greenville, Pennsylvania
North Liberty Presbyterian Church, Grove City, Pennsylvania
Westmoor Church of Christ, Kingston, Pennsylvania
First Evangelical Congregational Church, Palmyra, Pennsylvania
Bethesda Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) Christian Endeavor Union
Parsons Primitive Methodist Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Mission Board, Central Schwenkfelder Church, Worcester, Pennsylvania
Bruton Road Christian Church, Dallas, Texas
Texas Christian Endeavor Union
Westminster Presbyterian Church in America, Roanoke, Virginia
First Reformed Church, Yakima, Washington
Washington State Christian Endeavor Union
Christian Church of New Cumberland, New Cumberland, West Virginia
West Virginia Christian Endeavor Union
Wisconsin Christian Endeavor Union

HONOR GROUPS

Christian Education Department, St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church, Birmingham, Alabama
Cordova Church of the Nazarene, Citrus Heights, California
Adult Christian Endeavor, Third Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
Senior Christian Endeavor, Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
Alumni Council of Christian Endeavor, Chicago, Illinois
Illinois Christian Endeavor Union
Sagamore (Massachusetts) Christian Endeavor Alumni
Salvation Army, New Bedford, Massachusetts
Youth, Old South Union Church, South Weymouth, Massachusetts
Senior Christian Endeavor, Harlem Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan
Junior Christian Endeavor, Martin Reformed Church, Martin, Michigan
Michigan Conference United Brethren in Christ

Junior Christian Endeavor, First Presbyterian Church, Woodbridge, New Jersey
Varick Youth Fellowship, A.M.E. Zion Church, Newburgh, New York
Varick Christian Endeavor Society, Memorial A.M.E. Zion, Rochester, New York
Gleaners, Church of God of Prophecy, Goldsboro, North Carolina
Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. Church, Lumberton, North Carolina
Varick Christian Endeavor, St. Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church, Maysville, North Carolina
Evans Chapel Varick Christian Endeavor, A.M.E. Zion Church, Siler City, North Carolina
Columbus (Ohio) Area Adult Christian Endeavor Fellowship
Christian Endeavor, St. Paul A.M.E Church, Columbus, Ohio
West Second Avenue Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio
Senior Christian Endeavor League, Oak Street United Methodist Church, Dayton, Ohio
Hamilton Christian Endeavor Fellowship, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Lambton Christian Endeavor Fellowship, Sarnia, Ontario, Canada
Adult Christian Endeavor, Grace United Brethren in Christ Church, Sherkston, Ontario, Canada
Grace Evangelical Congregational Church, Akron, Pennsylvania
Junior and Senior Youth Group, Washington Presbyterian Church, Allenwood, Pennsylvania
Christian Endeavor, St. Thomas United Church of Christ, Bennville, Pennsylvania
St. Jacobs Stone Church, Brodbecks, Pennsylvania
Adult Christian Endeavor, Central Fellowship Church, Connellsville, Pennsylvania
Duncannon (Pennsylvania) Area Christian Endeavor
Christian Endeavor, Reich's Evangelical Church, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania
Grace Evangelical Congregational Church, East Petersburg, Pennsylvania
First United Church of Christ, Everett, Pennsylvania
Forty Fort Presbyterian Church, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania
Christian Endeavor, Guitner United Brethren in Christ Church, Greencastle, Pennsylvania
Adult Christian Endeavor, St. Davids United Church of Christ, Hanover, Pennsylvania
Christian Endeavor Societies, Westmoor Church of Christ, Kingston, Pennsylvania
Christian Endeavor, Grace Evangelical Congregational Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Lehigh Valley (Pennsylvania) Christian Endeavor Fellowship
Luzerne County (Pennsylvania) Christian Endeavor
Youth Christian Endeavor, Barton Road United Brethren in Christ Church, Meadville, Pennsylvania
Bethesda Youth, Bethesda Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Senior Christian Endeavor, Grace Chapel Reformed Episcopal Reformed Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Zion Alumni Christian Endeavor, Olivet-Covenant Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
St. Paul's Evangelical Congregational Church, Reading, Pennsylvania
Junior Christian Endeavor, Rexmont Evangelical Congregational Church, Rexmont, Pennsylvania
Faith United Prebyterian Church, Sharpsville, Pennsylvania
Senior High Christian Endeavor, Central Schwenkfelder Church, Worcester, Pennsylvania
Christian Education Department, A.M.E. Church, Nashville, Tennessee
Southwest Park Christian Church, Abilene, Texas
Junior and Youth Christian Endeavor, Paul's Union Church, La Marque, Texas
Adult Christian Endeavor, Jerusalem Chapel United Brethren in Christ Church, Churchville, Virginia
High School Christian Endeavor, Jerusalem Chapel United Brethren in Christ Church, Churchville, Virginia
Senior High Christian Endeavor Society, Bethlehem Congregational Church, Disputanta, Virginia
Christian Endeavor, Mt. Olivet United Brethren in Christ Church, Mt. Solon, Virginia
Richmond-Petersburg-Prince George-Disputanta (Virginia) Area Endeavorers
Village Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia
Calvary Christians, Calvary Memorial Church, Roanoke, Virginia
Roanoke (Virginia) Christian Endeavor Union
Junior Christian Endeavor, Fairlington Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Virginia

In Memoriam

...Paul F. Hurley, who died August 20 in Florida. Funeral was August 26 at Tressler Lutheran Church, Loysville, Pennsylvania, where Paul was active in local and state Christian Endeavor. He also served as Finance Committee Chairman of International Society and in other capacities.

...Leah T. Vandersall, widow of Dr. Stanley B. Vandersall, who died in Columbus, Ohio, in September. Mrs. Vandersall worked at Headquarters in the 1950's after International Society moved its offices to Columbus. Dr. Vandersall held many International and World's Union postions of leadership.

...Joy Simpson, Philadelphia opera singer who died in Cape Town, South Africa, March 25, while on a concert tour. Joy, who was 40 years of age, was a participant in many Christian Endeavor events.

...Warren G. Hoopes, Sr.,who died October 17; memorial service was held at Trinity Episcopal Church, Pottsville, Pennsylvania, on October 31. Warren, who was 98 years of age, held many Christian Endeavor posts in his long, dynamic life; he was president of Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor 1924-26, general secretary 1925-1958, and served on the Pennsylvania Board of Directors for many more years. Warren continued a vital interest in Christian Endeavor throughout his long life.

It's Harlingen, Texas, in 1989

Endeavorers will converge on the "Texas Valley" July 3-7, 1989, for the 60th International Christian Endeavor Convention. Registration is $20 for adults (over 19) and $15 for young people (19 and under), with a late charge of $10 added to the total convention package plan for all registrations received after April 1, 1989. There also is a $10 booster registration available for persons who are unable to attend, but who wish to support the convention.

The local committee is already hard at work, under the leadership of Mrs. Alice Fuqua. The 1989 Texas Convention Program Committee will be chaired by Rev. Charles W. Barner; members include Patricia G. Booker, Terry Gilmour, Samuel M. Guerrero, Nathaniel Jarrett, Timothy J. Kribs, Thomas Martin, Tracy D. Matthews, Thomas Mawson, Jonathan Stewart, plus Mrs. Fuqua and the Texas president, Debbie Veale.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR IN MEXICO

By Rev. David G. Jackson, General Secretary
International Society and World's Union

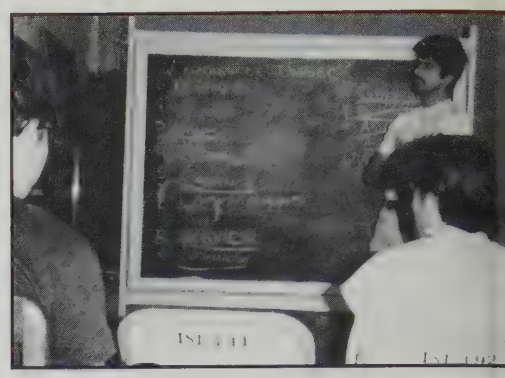
For many years contacts between the Mexican Christian Endeavor Union and Christian Endeavor Headquarters were very limited because of language difficulties. Except for a few young people who attended International or World's Conventions, there was very little communication. However, during the past two years we have been able to reverse this situation.

During several visits to Mexico I discovered an exciting, dynamic Christian Endeavor program in operation there. Known as "Union Nacional de Sociedades de Esfuerzo Cristiano de la Iglesia Nacional Presbiteriana de Mexico" (The National Union of Christian Endeavor Societies of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico), this group of Endeavorers has revitalized and put into operation a program that is reaching and training young people across Mexico in the service of Christ and the Church.

This hasn't always been the case, however. About five years ago the Mexican Union was in danger of disintegration and ineffective ministry. It had lost its purpose for existence and was just "going through the motions." A group of concerned young people, sensing the seriousness of the situation, committed themselves to a program of revitalization and renewal of the Mexican Christian Endeavor Union.

In 1983 the newly-elected national officers began an investigation and analysis of the serious problem they were facing. They discovered that the reason Christian Endeavor had been declining so rapidly in recent years was due mainly to the lack of a well-defined program with specific aims and objectives. This, they found, had come about as a result of the lack of understanding of the basic elements of Christian Endeavor—its purpose and its program.

Therefore, they decided that an effort must be made to redefine the aims and objects of their Christian Endeavor Union through a better understanding of the principles, purposes, and organizational structure of Christian Endeavor. The first step taken was the restructuring and reorganization of the national union. Starting with the 1983-85 biennium, the officers decided to begin incorporating the ideas and recommendations of local and state unions into the national program. This was in contrast to the previous policy of developing a program at the national level only. The program now is structured on the needs, interests, and concerns of the local and state unions.



To assist in carrying out this program five departments were established: (1) Programa y Desarrollo (Program and Development)—responsible for development of the program of evangelism; (2) Educacion Christian (Christian Education)—preparation of materials for devotions, conferences, etc.; (3) Vida Espiritual (Spiritual Life)—promotion of Christian growth; (4) Servicios Especiales (Special Services)—deals with public relations, promotion, and social activities; and (5) Relaciones Humanas (Human Relations)—coordination of finances, statistics, inventory, bulletins, etc.

In 1985 the union adopted a ten-year plan of operation and immediately began its implementa-

tion. This plan is based on the four basic principles of Christian Endeavor: (1) Confession of Christ, (2) Service for Christ, (3) Loyalty to Christ's Church, and (4) Fellowship with Christ's People. Special training sessions for national leaders were organized and are being conducted on a regular basis to educate these leaders in the plan of operation. The officers, in turn, are holding training sessions in the various state unions.

Through 1986, 60% of the state unions have received training from the national officers and 90% of the state unions are now working by departments.

Currently, there are 24 officially recognized active state unions and two others are in the process of becoming members. These state unions have been divided into five regions (Norte, Maya, Pacifico, Golfo, and Centro) each under the supervision of a regional coordinator. The responsibilities of these coordinators include promoting fellowship among their unions, coordinating activities at a regional level, and maintaining communication between the national union and the state unions within their region.

Another objective of the ten-year program is to assist the local church pastors better understand Christian Endeavor and its ministry along with making them aware of its value to the local church. This is being accomplished through special presentations by national leaders at conferences, seminars, and institutes, and through personal contact.

Through the vision of the national officers and leaders and by their sacrificial commitment of time, talent, and abilities to reach their objectives, Christian Endeavor in Mexico is once again becoming a vital ministry to the young people of the churches and a dynamic program in training youth for the service of Christ and His Church.

A Significant Week

(continued from Page 13)

by the "Lost and Found" from Grace Chapel and young people from Windsor Baptist. John Barkley, sponsor at Grace Chapel, reported this event.

At the Youth Sunday service at Central Schwenkfelder Church, Worcester, Pennsylvania, the youth presented an entire service on the history of hymns, providing all the music and all the readings. Karen Gallagher, director of Christian education, reports, "They did an excellent job." Dr. Jack R. Rothenberger, International Society president, is pastor.

In Florida Lavern Billig was host to a Christian Endeavor get-together at Lake Wales on Thursday of Christian Endeavor Week with 25 attending, representing six states.

This week at New Cumberland (West Virginia) Christian Church meant youth participated in both Sunday services, as well as a roller skating party and junior fun night. Society meetings stressed the principles of Christian Endeavor and the beliefs of the Christian Church. Donna Straight is president of Christian Endeavor, which includes an adult, youth, and junior society.

Youth at Warwood Christian Church, Warwood, West Virginia, presented the evening program February 1 and held a birthday party following. The cakes were baked by the men of the church with Mike Turbanic winning the cake decorating contest.

On January 25 the youth of Bethlehem Congregational Church, Disputanta, Virginia, led the morning worship. The banquet for Disputanta-Petersburg-Prince George County-Richmond scheduled for January 30 was postponed to February 6 because of a heavy snow. The rescheduled event attracted 65 Endeavorers from the area. Alice Goodman spoke on the theme.

Frank Schock, former Pennsylvania president, gave the sermon at the morning worship service February 1 at Westmoor Church of Christ, Kingston, Pennsylvania, with many Endeavorers participating. The societies had a covered dish dinner following the service, and a society meeting at 2:30 which included a Bible Bowl, according to Shirley M. Miller, secretary.

A covered dish dinner and hobby night Sunday evening, February 1, was attended by 89 persons at Grace Evangelical Congregational Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Beth Grimm is director of Christian development.

On January 31 the Shenandoah Valley Christian Endeavor held its annual birthday banquet at Massanutten Presbyterian Church. State president Cindy Johnson with Barbara Dority participated and the evening's entertainment was provided by Tracy Matthews of Washington, D.C.

Christian Endeavor Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, was the site of a special birthday celebration on February 2. Rev. David G. Jackson, General Secretary, led the meeting in the Jones Room. Headquarters Staff members Carole Fox, Jean Hinton, Eleanor Tope, and Anna Voss, plus guests Clyde and Phyllis Meadows, Clair and Betty Beatty, and Earl and Patty Todt took part by reading Scriptures, praying for Endeavorers around the world, and sharing great moments in Christian Endeavor from each person's experience. The Meadows provided birthday cake and ice cream for the fellowship period following the meeting.

York County Celebrates

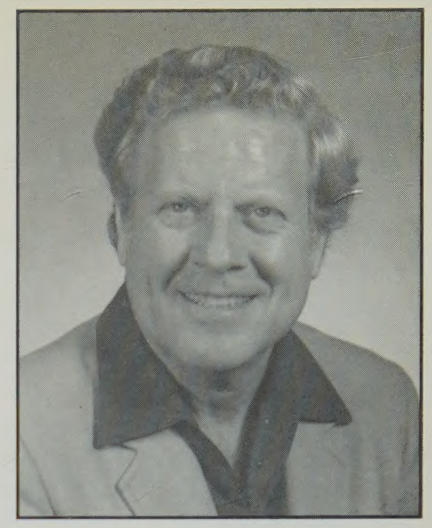
The York County Christian Endeavor Union held its Adult Fellowship Banquet at Pleasant Hill Fire Company Hall, Hanover, Pennsylvania, September 12 with 95 present.

Thirteen of the 18 past presidents were there to commemorate the 100th birthday of Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor and all participated in the program.

Past presidents pictured are (left to right): First Row - Robert Trump, Paul Rinehart, Richard Brumgard; Second Row - John Stough, Calvin Garrett, Janice Frock, Carol Stine, Ronald Sunday; Third Row - Chester Utz, Roy Fritz, Waldemar Senft, Spurgeon Shoemaker, Arthur Ambrosius.

Speaker was Rev. Charles W. Barner, Pennsylvania Adult Fellowship representative. Planning committee was Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Garrett and Mr. and Mrs. Preston Gantz.

The President's Corner



By Jack R. Rothenberger
Immediate Past President

AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST
II Corinthians 5:16-6:2

In our world today there is both the need and the urgency to make more and more our own the prayer of the Lord recorded in John 17:21, "...that all may be one so that the world may believe."

The search for Christian unity is rooted in our relationship to the Creator. God desires that you and I find true harmony with Him. As we secure that harmony through faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord of life we gain harmony within ourselves, with others, and with God's entire creation.

Each believer in Christ has the responsibility to seek unity "in Christ" and to minimize all barriers to reconciliation within God's world and particularly within His Church. As members of Christian Endeavor, you and I are to be bridge builders and loving forgivers in all of our relationships. Why? According to our Lord's prayer in John 17:21, so that the world may believe that Jesus is the Christ.

When the implication of the statement recorded in II Corinthians 5:15, "He died for all," began to get hold of Paul, his feelings about every person in the world were changed. The fact that every person he met was the object of God's eternal love and was one for whom Christ died defined the nature of his ministry from that time forward.

The Apostle Paul believed that on the cross sinful humanity had been destroyed and that "IN CHRIST" a new humanity was being created. Paul's words: "If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new" (II Corinthians 5:17) express a profound hope for all mankind through faith in Jesus Christ.

Paul was not discussing a newness that was merely cosmetic, like a new hairdo or a new suit of clothes. Rather, he was talking about an inner change that only God can make. It is a newness that ties together our past, our present, and our future. It is a newness which cannot be seen immediately, but eventually will reflect itself in every aspect of one's life and thought. This newness is expressed by a growing desire to be God-related, a growing dependency upon the living Christ in all areas of life, a growing strength to handle the really difficult aspects of life, and a growing evidence of the fruit of the spirit in the way one lives.

There is no more beautiful description of the work that God has given every Christian than is found in Paul's statement in II Corinthians 5:18,20. Christ has given us "THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION" and because of that we are to be "AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST" in all the world.

The Christian's privilege and almost terrifying responsibility is to be an AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST. An ambassador of a nation is a citizen of that nation living in a foreign land. His life is spent among people who usually speak a different language, who have a different culture, different ways of living, etc. The Christian is always like that. He or she lives in the world, takes part in all the life and work of the world, but is a citizen of God's kingdom. The person who is not willing to be different cannot be a Christian, according to the Apostle Paul.

An ambassador speaks for his own country. When an ambassador speaks, his voice is the voice of the nation he represents. There are times when a Christian has to speak for Christ. The message spoken must always be one of forgiveness and reconciliation. The honor of a country is in the ambassador's hands. His country is judged by him. His words and deeds are heard and watched and the people will say: "That is the way such and such a country speaks and acts."

As AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, you and I as members of International Christian Endeavor must carry our Lord's message to the world. The message is: "Be reconciled to God and be reconciled to one another." Our Father is a loving, forgiving father. Be reconciled to Him! Don't continue to break His heart of love by refusing to be an answer to His prayer that we all may be one in Christ.

Remember, the honor of Christ and of the Church are in your hands and mine. As an AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST, every word and act we say and do can make others think more or less of the church and of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ.

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a fellowship tour to the Soviet Union

sponsored by

International Society of Christian Endeavor

August 6-19, 1988

Join with other Christian Endeavorers in another "once in a lifetime" adventure fellowship tour and celebrate with fellow Christians in Russia the anniversary of one thousand years of Christianity in that land.

In 1988, the Russian Orthodox Church will be observing this "Millenium of Faith" and is inviting Christians from all over the world to share in this celebration. Despite many hardships, the church is alive and growing in the U.S.S.R. and Christians continue their witness even within an officially atheistic society.

Our two-week Fellowship Tour will take us to the major cities of LENINGRAD, NOVGOROD, KIEV, MOSCOW, and ZAGORSK, including visits to many historical and religious landmarks. We will worship with both Orthodox and Baptist congregations, visit one of the largest seminaries in the Soviet Union, and have dialogue with Christian leaders and lay people of the churches.

Tour features include:

- Round trip airfare from New York
- Preparatory study materials before departure
- First-class hotels
- All meals
- All transfers - including gratuities
- Full-time Russian-speaking tour escort from U.S.A.
- Visas

Reservations are due by December 31, 1987, and the first 40 received are assured of space on the tour. Additional reservations received after December 31 will be accepted if space is available. A price adjustment to meet any increased costs in 1988 may be added after December 31.

Tour Cost: $2,475 Double Occupancy
$ 300 Single Occupancy Supplement

Please complete and send to:

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_____ Yes, I am interested. Please send me the full itinerary.
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